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Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 022701-879

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

) **BOX RCE**

Michel COSTANTINI et al.

) Group Art Unit: 1623

Application No.: 09/623,414

) Examiner: Chaudhry, M.

Filed: November 8, 2000

)

For: **METHOD FOR SEPARATING AND
PURIFYING ADIPIC ACID**

)

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.
- A Terminal Disclaimer and a check for [] \$55.00 (248) [] \$110.00 (148) to cover the requisite Government fee are also enclosed.
- Also enclosed is a copy of GB Patent 1 576 297
- Small entity status is hereby claimed.
- Applicant(s) request continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the [] \$370.00 (279) [X] \$740.00 (179) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- Applicant(s) previously submitted ___, on ___, for which continued examination is requested.
- Applicant(s) request suspension of action by the Office until at least ___, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
- A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (146/246) is also enclosed.
- No additional claim fee is required.
- An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

A M E N D E D C L A I M S					
	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADDT'L FEE
Total Claims	23	MINUS 22 =	1	× \$18.00 (103) =	18.00
Independent Claims	2	MINUS 3 =	0	× \$84.00 (102) =	-0-
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$280.00 (104)					
Total Amendment Fee					
If small entity status is claimed, subtract 50% of Total Amendment Fee					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					

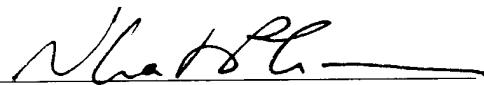
[X] A claim fee in the amount of \$ 18.00 is enclosed.

[] Charge \$ _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

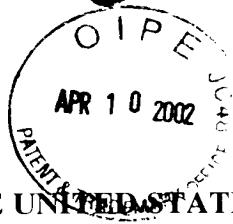
Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: 
Nhat D. Phan
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P.O. Box 1404
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703/836-6620

Date: April 10, 2002



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SECOND REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the final Official Action dated September 25, 2001, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claim 23 as follows:

23. **(New)** A process for treating the reaction mixture resulting from the direct oxidation of cyclohexane to adipic acid with molecular oxygen in an organic solvent in the presence of a catalyst, said process comprising:

(a) separating the reaction mixture into two liquid phases by settling to form an upper phase comprising cyclohexane, and a lower phase comprising an organic solvent, diacids formed during the oxidation reaction, a catalyst and a portion of other reaction products and unconverted cyclohexane;